



Gary Robinson  
Bodmin Landscape Project 96

100 PAGE FEINT



Ref. RHSE6 22.5X17.5cm





Thursday 6th

Arrived at Bodmin Railway at 8pm.  
the station was empty and very  
bleak. So this is Bodmin.  
Looked around the station to see  
if I could find who ever was to  
collect me. After 10 minutes or so  
a voice appeared from a telephone  
box. 'Are you Gary?' we sped off at great speed in  
Anna's car in the direction of  
Camelford. Anna seems very friendly  
talking as fast as she can. We had  
driven about what we had been  
doing on Saturday that week.  
After 15-20 minutes and after  
passing the railway station for a  
second time it became clear  
that we did not know the way  
back to Camelford.  
We were not lost  
of a racket on  
Cornwall we  
way via the  
with the aid  
attractions of  
navigated our  
scenic route to

# Cornelford

Juliet's Well Caravan and Camping Park  
 is a much better than I had  
 imagined, in fact it seems very  
 nice!

After putting up my tent I was  
 invited to have ~~soon~~ some  
 food with Wayne, Anna and Jill  
 Egg & chips!

Everyone seems very friendly  
 and enthusiastic

After a couple of hours of  
 talking and off debating with  
 vigorous on all aspects of Archaeolo-  
 gical theory (it is nice and rare to  
 be having these type of open  
 discussions in such off setting  
 with such friendly people)

After a box of wine or so I  
 decided that I had better introduce  
 myself to the archaeologists  
 (as they were referred to) who were  
 staying in a caravan to find

out the arrangements for tomorrow  
I went to the appointed camp  
where I was introduced to  
Chris, John and Mike. They all  
seemed friendly enough although  
the atmosphere seemed a bit  
tense (maybe it was the wine)  
we arranged to meet at 8am  
the following morning.

On the return to the on-campment  
Waynes Tent!) more wine was  
consumed and more talk followed.  
It quickly became apparent that  
a certain amount of friction  
had occurred between those  
excavating and those working  
on the field survey. From what  
I can gather a gulf was  
starting to emerge between the  
two camps which camp will I be placed  
in? Neither

Friday 7th

went to Chris Ash, Mires, Corrigan  
at 8am and was greeted with  
too much welcome.

Chris went through with me  
what they were planning on doing  
over the next few days and showed  
me the appropriate plans, paperwork  
(context sheets etc.)

around 10am we set off in  
Chris's car to the site.  
After parking the car beside a  
fence we walked for 30-40  
minutes across the moor to the  
Leskennic site. Mike talked to me about  
stones I find Mike very difficult  
to figure out I am sure he  
is trying to be friendly but he  
seems very serious and cold.  
The moor itself if not  
as I had imagined it, to  
be a wild woodland of boggy  
seems a very familiar landscape

one that reminds me of parts of  
Northumberland (but not as hilly)  
I feel quite at home here.

The site itself was even better than  
I had thought it would be.  
Even though I had seen plans,  
slides and photographs of it, I  
was constantly shocked by its  
'apparate' presence.

Spent the day working with Chris  
digging up debris, de-turfing and tidying  
up, but I'm not too planning  
bit like gardening really!  
Chris seems to be a sound  
bloke, I can't imagine that we  
would agree on much, archaeologically  
but his skill and clarity  
as a field archaeologist is most  
admirable. Generally a nice  
bloke!

Returned to the campsite about  
6pm  
Went out tonight to Matt and

Pippas left for food.

The conversation tonight was not as free and easy as last night.

Matt and Pippa both seem very friendly although their conversation always seems to return to Road protesters New age travellers etc. I find this a bit imitating although I admit that this is probably me rather than them.

Saturday 8th

Missed my 8am lift this morning.

Anna gave me a lift at 9am. Got up to the settlement where I met our It was nice to see a familiar face. Although worked on but 27 all day with Chris and Jill generally helping up prior to taking photographs and planning. It's good to be out in the open.

I can't help thinking that the whole  
 landscape reminds me of the novel  
 FIRST light by Peter Ackroyd  
~~there are so many places that have~~  
~~become solid and fixed~~  
~~maybe not, what a load of bollocks~~

went to the pub (on camp site tonight)  
 Mike Chris Ash etc were obvious in  
 their absence

Sunday 9th

Prehistoric society were doing  
 a tour of the site today.  
 Walked around for them to arrive.  
 They appeared over the horizon  
 like some great army about to  
 change (or crawl) although I have  
 only been here a few days it feels  
 like an invasion that these  
 people are 'invading' Leiston.  
 Went on a tour of the site with the Chris

8

was telling them that the landscape  
was imbued with significance  
as explaining the rough tor effect  
I could feel them changing with  
horror who did this instant think he  
was. As the tour proceeded  
a strange (or not) thing seemed  
to happen slowly the enthusiasm  
of the group spread increased  
until at the end the once  
sceptics were almost converts.  
This was most amazing to  
observe as none of them seemed  
quite sure who or what was and  
what I was doing with them.

The rest of the afternoon I spent  
working with Mike on Hut 27  
I am slowly warming to Mike  
maybe he's not as cold as he  
makes out

Then out to the pub with  
Anna and Jill we were  
going to see Helen who  
had just return with started a

spending the night in a police station?  
Why I am not quite sure?)

After closing time we retired to  
Helen sent for a leg  
Helen seems very friendly and

Monday 10th

It was raining and foggy this morning.

The surveying team are holding a meeting at 11am.

Went into Camelford and done some shopping. Arrived back at the camp 11am to go to the meeting but was told that they had gone into Bodmin to get some shopping for a meal. They are going to prepare for everyone tonight.

I feel like I've been waiting around all morning. I am not going to sit around in my tent in the

Ran until they return!  
Went up to site with the  
excavation team at 11-30 - missing  
the meeting

Worked on the stone tools all  
day with Helen and Ash.

Spent day singing hits from the  
70s & 80s and generally had an  
excellent time (easily pleased!)

I really enjoy working with Helen,  
she is very easy going and  
an inspiration (she also sings equally  
as bad as myself, and has a  
great knowledge of crap music!)  
Ash (who really does look like  
Benny from ABBA) is much more  
reserved (sensible) but broke down  
a number of times when  
joined in on choruses of Dancing  
Queen etc

Tonight a grand feast was  
prepared by Anna & Jill in  
Barbara's caravan. Mike and Chris Ash  
had been dreading this meal  
(I think they... foresaw a argument.) The

11

night seemed to go well, food was  
really good Wayne pissed Ash (abit) off mainly  
through trying to be friendly  
but also by going about  
when I was president of the  
Students Union  
when I was at Martin's school  
of fine art  
I must admit this was annoying,  
but that's Wayne. (the big Lover)  
that he is  
I feel that most of this friction  
is due to not knowing and  
accepting people as they are. This  
is probably over simplifying the  
situation but anyway!

Tuesday 14th

Rain - Rain - Rain

went into Caneford to discuss  
what to do today  
had coffee in a very strange

12

(well the man in coffee shop) shop  
Can I get you anything ladies and  
gentlemen  
And what kind of complementary  
Biscuit would sir like  
Are you sure this coffee is not too  
strong for you madame?

went up on to silk.  
The fog was extremely thick Helen  
and I went off first. I  
walked completely past the  
silk but managed to see the  
others in the distance and  
tag behind hoping that it would not  
be obvious that we were lost.  
(name!)

It was so different on the moon  
in the fog not being able  
to orientate gave the whole  
place a very uncertain alien  
feel about it.

On returning to the car we met

Helen's partner Sophie who had arrived from London to meet her.

Wednesday 12th

Worked most of the day with Chris and Jo, detouring but 39 hard work but enjoyable

Went to the pub tonight to see Max Piper artist. He was suitably crap. Sat talking and drinking with Jill and Mike. I am warning to Mike it has taken a few days to realise that Mike does not take himself seriously my initial feelings about him have proved to be totally wrong.

Later in the evening Chris (Tilly) and I came in. I spent the night with Mike but very different). Chris had a way outness taking

what ever that means!)

to him I get the impression that  
he ① does not take a lot of  
what says especially to Mike.)  
seriously

② That he is actually very  
clear and lucid about what he  
aims to achieve  
do not know if this mark  
is imposed by himself or  
perpetuated by others.  
Any way he seems very sociable  
and trying hard to build bridges  
between the two camps.

After closing time Mike and myself  
go to Chris & Sids caravan  
where we drink whisky and  
look at Gaboworthy photographs

Thursday 13th

'Day off'  
Bad hangover!

Shopping in Corfe  
Sleep.

BBQ in camping field.

Sit around eating and talking  
Mike and Chris and Hugh invited but  
did not come.

As the night went on the drunken  
conversation moved onto class.  
I appear to be the only person  
who did not go to public school  
my comments on my education are  
re-buffed with that so stereotypical  
everyone says that this pisses  
me off somewhat. But so what!  
life goes on. I must remember to  
avoid these type of discussions  
although this not the first and probably  
not the last time I'll say this)

16

Friday 14th <sup>(Great)</sup> Chris went home this morning)

Worked all day on hut 39 with  
Kira

Sue was interviewed yesterday by  
Radio Cornwall and it was  
supposed to be ~~gonna~~ transmitted  
today. Listened all morning but  
heard nothing although ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Alpenum  
Womans Union are holding a  
skiffle competition on Saturday at  
3pm in the village hall.

In the afternoon the man from  
Radio Cornwall arrived on site to  
help out.

~~talk~~ Mr Radio is very odd why I am  
not sure but something about  
him doesn't quite add up.

Went to the pub tonight with  
Sophie and Helen.

Saturday

Manson had come down for the week end it's good to see her!

Spent the day working on hut 27 with Mike and Jill.  
Saw Mike's 'cobbles' for the first time very impressive.

Sunday 16th

Worked on H27

Moved large stones from H27  
with Mike Wayne and Chris T.  
This is the first time Mike had  
had to work with them on a  
joint venture. Although this is a  
small thing I believe that it  
may have major implications.  
Mike has repeatedly stated now surprised  
he was at how good Chris  
was at moving large stones  
(a hidden talent! )

Wednesday 10th

Sophie returned to London this morning

went up to sit in Jones car

Worked off Nut 27

Mike decided to cut a trench  
through the middle of the hut  
and immediately ~~parted~~ ~~passed~~  
seemed to regret doing this  
Mike always seems so confident  
and sure about what he is doing  
but this seems to have knocked  
him back.

Everyone tells him that he has  
done the right thing but,  
he is convinced he has made  
a major error.

Chris returned ~~to~~ to sit ~~there~~

19 bis

Due to a law/rule that  
only they are aware of

sortidos assorties assortiti assortit assortiert assortie assorti assort

purpura purple purple

056730 056581

Friday 26st

19

Chris tells Mike that his section through H27 is OK. This seems to bring Mike's confidence back. Mike obviously has a lot of respect for Chris's judgement on such matters.

Spent most of the day clearing up H27 - the comish unit are coming to look around the site tonight. Chris is most concerned that everything looks good!

Barbara arrived with Jan and a number of reconstructed stones, (made from cardboard boxes and muslin.) Although highly sceptical at first I must admit that they look really good once they've been erected. Mike and in particular Chris G. think that this is 'outrageous' and 'stole so in very clear terms. This does not go down well.

Chris T is well pissed off by their <sup>20</sup>  
behaviour and takes this as an  
insult to Jan and Barbara  
Solace 'vibes' not good.

Spent the solace waiting for the  
sun to set drinking cheap wine  
(Pink Lady) just as the sun is  
about to set it is covered by  
a cloud.

Chris storms off by himself across  
the moon obviously pissed off with  
the whole day

Get lift back to camping site, n  
crystals 4 wheel drive  
sit in Helen's + caravan with  
Crystal, Helen and Jill  
later in the night Chris T comes  
over to chat things seem to have  
calmed down somewhat.

Saturday 22nd

Worked on stone now with Helen  
trying to get it totally finished  
Maddocking all day

Sunday 23rd.

Spent the whole day returning  
hard work and a bit depressing  
encouraging that this is the end!  
Worked till late.

Went to the pub with Rebecca and  
Helen then to Chris and Sues  
Conawan.

Mike seems in a good mood  
tonight him and Chris seem to  
be getting on better (considering)  
Although a bit of baiting, going on!  
Blues on the Quo A surreal  
experience, one of the few times  
that we all sat together during the  
day (good or bad thing I am not  
sure!)

DIARY ENDS